

# GOTCH, FAVORITE LIKE JEFFRIES, STECHER MAY OUTWRESTLE HIM

Parallel Between Gotch and Jeffries Fails When Physical Condition is Considered, For Gotch, Coming Out of Retirement, is in Much Better Condition Than Jeffries Before the Reno Battle With Johnson.

BY MONTY.

NEW YORK, Feb. 5.—It is safe to say that at least four fifths of the country believe Frank Gotch at his best outclassed every other man that has tackled the mat game since its beginning. Moreover it can be ventured that about the same proportion will favor Gotch to beat any man he faces even now.

In just the same way Jim Jeffries was favorite when he essayed his comeback and met Jack Johnson. As everybody knows now, Jeff was simply pulverized by the negro. Old Jeff was slow and inaccurate as well as lacking his old stamina and punch. Will Gotch get the same results in wrestling that Jeffries did in boxing?

In some respects the cases of Jeffries and Gotch are almost exactly the same. Both outclassed everybody in sight at the time of retirement. In each case a challenger finally arose who made such an impression that demands were heard for the return of the champion. In Jeff's case the Nemesis was John S. Stecher of Dodge, Nebraska.

Otherwise, parallel fails. There are also ways in which the parallel fails to fit. First and foremost is the fact that Gotch has led a healthy, hardy life in the open air on his farm at Humboldt, Iowa. He has been in fine general shape all the time and never has violated any of the elementary rules for physical well-being. Jeffries, on the other hand, after coming back, he was in no such fine general trim as Gotch is when he decides to get ready for a return to the old familiar battlefield.

Carrying the parallel over rather the perpendicular, Jeffries did not train faithfully for the Johnson bout even after he did begin his conditioning process. While the scene of the Johnson-Jeffries fracas was moved from San Francisco to Reno and the governor of Nevada, who placed the gladiators that the contest had to be on the square, it was too late for Jeff to get into good condition. He was in the general shape of a man who has been in poor general shape when he entered the ring.

Gotch begins training. Gotch will be in the finest sort of shape when he unlimbers for action. Already he is going through the preliminary strenuous training. He will be in tip top fettle by the time he begins his engagement with a circus in April. After a few weeks of regular competition against all comers in the circus bouts, he will be in the best possible shape to tackle any hard customer that comes along. There is nothing so good as a regular fighting schedule to get a man into shape, and likewise there should be nothing so beneficial for a wrestler as wrestling himself into shape.

Joe Stecher is a mighty young man. He excels all other present day grap-

## WIVES WILL ASK QUESTION

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BY TAD

## RICKARD SEEKS SITE FOR BOAT

Promoter Wants to Secure Madison Square Garden For Willard and Moran.

New York, Feb. 5.—Tex Rickard, who is promoting the Willard-Moran bout that is to take place here March 17, said Friday that Willard's manager, Tom Jones, would be here next week and the final agreement for the contest would be signed by the end of the week. "I have not been apprised of the exact agreement arrived at in Chicago yesterday," said Rickard, "but I am going ahead with my efforts to find a suitable place to bring it off at the Madison Square Garden and am ready to meet any reasonable proposition made by the management of that place. Regardless of the price, I have orders on file now for 21 ringside boxes, and I expect to have the bout at the Madison Square Garden." Rickard said that he had decided that the price for the bout would be \$25 each, and that he was making reservations so as to protect visiting sportsmen as well as local patrons from speculators as far as possible. "I am making this match by positively threatening to bring Moran and Willard together in this city for a purse almost as large as the one I am offering for Willard and Moran. Willard is not coming east with Jones next week, but I will insist that the champion shall train in this vicinity for at least three weeks prior to March 17."

In understanding Moran is going to begin training at Saratoga, but he, too, must finish his preparatory work somewhere adjacent to this city. The men themselves will have to agree on a referee, as under no circumstances will I consent to act in that capacity as I did at Reno at the Johnson-Jeffries fight."

## LOCAL GUN CLUB WILL SUPPLY GAME WARDENS

The trapshooting season will open on Sunday morning on the traps of the El Paso Country Club near the El Paso Country Club. The first shoot is styled as a "beginners' even" but both old and new members of the club and all visiting sportsmen are invited to take part. Shooting will start at 9:30. Ernest P. Hughes believes the coming season is going to be the most successful in the history of the club. The club is making a canvas for new members and it is hoped to have the strongest club in the state. Both the El Paso and El Paso gun clubs are competing for the enforcement of the state game laws. Arrangements have been made whereby a dozen members of each club will be commissioned as game wardens and they will make it their business to see that the game laws are enforced. "Last year they were shooting quail in June," said Mr. Hughes, "and when the season opened the El Paso shotgun experts found that the game had all been killed off or driven to other parts. We intend to put a stop to that this year and for that reason we have taken steps to get commissions as game wardens."

## WILD SPORTS HARM ATHLETES

Experiments With Young Athletes Show Vital Organs Much Enlarged.

San Francisco, Calif., Feb. 5.—"The Olympian," official organ of the Olympic club, San Francisco's famous athletic organization, in its issue just published, has the following to say in discussing the evil effects of too much strenuousness in competitive athletics in our preparatory schools with relation to the death of a well known athlete who recently died of pneumonia. "Very injurious is violent competition work or severe endurance tests, like the one reported recently of an 80 mile bicycle trip made by several boys. Experiments made some time ago at the Wisconsin institute showed that all the organs of the body are enlarged by exercise during the growing period. The heart, kidneys and liver showed an average increase of 20 percent among the athletes that exercised vigorously in revolving cages compared with their companions who were confined with out exercise. "Investigations made at Wisconsin university have clearly shown that from five to ten percent of the freshmen have enlargement of the heart, attributable to indulgence in severe competitive athletics in preparatory schools. "The human body is a self-regulating machine, and parts of which adjust themselves to conditions pretty well after maturity has been reached. If the constitutional balance necessary to resist the onslaughts of infectious disease after maturity is to be developed for the battle of life there must be conservation in the formative period. Excess of exercise, change of diet and habits and self-denial in training, all have an injurious effect on the growing body."

wardens so that we will not have to count on other persons to take action and then find that the other fellow didn't take it."

## BASEBALL SUIT WILL BE HEARD NEXT MONDAY

Chicago, Ill., Feb. 5.—Because the Baltimore Federal league club wished to be heard, a motion made Friday to dismiss the suit of the Federal league against organized baseball, was heard Monday. The motion was offered in the United States district court by attorneys representing the plaintiffs to the suit which was brought under the Sherman anti-trust law. Dismissal of the suit, which was filed January 5, 1915, was one of the demands of the Federal league, which was made by the Federal league when it was organized. The Baltimore club owners at that time indicated that they plan to join an international league team in Baltimore and did not satisfy them. Judge K. M. Landis directed that the Baltimore club should be notified by telegram and be ready to present its case Monday.

St. Valentine's Day, February 14th. Select yours early. El Paso Book Co., Mills Bldg. "It's Handy."—Adv.

## BOOKIES THINK RACES ARE FIXED; TOO MANY LONG SHOTS WINNING

Many Bookmakers Are on Verge of Bankruptcy Because of Strange Turns in Racing; Cite Instances of Gamblers Playing Eight Long Shots and Winning on Seven; In Havana Favorites Usually Win.

BY FRANK G. MENKE.

NEW YORK, Feb. 5.—Those who have played the ponies this winter, both at the tracks and in the handbooks, are said to have made such killings that many of the "bookies" are on the verge of bankruptcy.

From New Orleans and Havana come gleeful gurglings from the assemblage—and fearful groans from the bookmakers. Day after day the hot pools have been picking winners—short odds and long odds.

In New York, Chicago and other big cities where handbook men used to do a big business, it is almost impossible to get down a bet. The "bookies" no longer are hunting customers. They've been wallowed almost to the limit of their financial endurance. They take bets—almost under protest. And they won't take big ones. In the other—and better for them—days the handbook men accepted offerings up to \$250 and \$500 on a race. Now some of them limit the bet to \$10 while the bravest refuse anything over \$25.

Why is the public making such "killings"? Well, there are two reasons ascribed for it by the "bookies." The main one is that there is no even matching of horses in most of the races. The cards, say the bookies, are made up of six or seven "goats" and one real horse. "A 19 year old kid could pick nine winners out of 10 in these races," said one handbook person who has been wallowed unmercifully. "What's the use of a bookie taking bets when the only chance for him to win is for the favorite to drop dead—or for the race to be fixed."

## National League Will Celebrate Plans Banquet For 40th Birthday

NEW YORK, Feb. 5.—Next week the National league celebrates its 40th anniversary with a dinner in this city. It is going to be a marvelous event in more ways than one, and baseball people from far and near will be present.

The feast, of course, will be presided over by John K. Tener, in which he will say in part: "Baseball is a wonderful institution, but there will be numerous other attractions. It would be a breach of faith to divulge the entire program in advance, but we have a grand authority that there is to be a grand parade of floats, depicting historic incidents in the National league, a series of very interesting tableaux or living pictures, and many skits, speeches and essays of one kind and another. The archives of the league will be opened and there will be a splendid display of relics, including Benji Wagner and Ed Delahanty's batting average of 1899, which was the last .400 average the National league has had. Prof. Chris Mathewson will read a paper in this connection, showing that batting did not deteriorate in the old circuit, as some people may suppose, but that the pitching suddenly improved. Inasmuch as a professor came in the following year. Charles Hat Ebbets's famous white heaver will be shown, along with John T. Brush's, which was the last soap strainer known to the big league. An authenticated picture of Your Uncle William, which was the last one to be found of interest. It was taken when Mr. Robinson was four years of age. Nap Rucker's hat will be included in the display of relics, with a copy of Ed Reulbach's early contract. The baseball, duly certified, which Lemuel K. Ames knocked for a home run will be shown.

Some Fine Floats. One of the most elaborate floats which appear in the grand parade will present a life like reproduction of the famous scene in Macbeth's recent victory, when Percy Haughton, the new president of the Boston Braves, discarded his wrist watch in the presence of the Boston baseball writers. The very watch which Mr. Haughton tore from his person, and some of the writers who saw him do it will take part in the scene. Of course there will be floats depicting the triumph of the National league over the American league in

## CAPTAINS PICK SOCCER TEAMS

Big Game Will Be Played at Rio Grande Park Sunday Afternoon.

Arrangements for the big soccer match at Rio Grande park on Sunday afternoon between the 20th infantry and the United Empire club were completed on Friday evening and Capt. Berley and Ingram have announced their lineups. The game promises to be the big event of the soccer season and arrangements are under way to have the 20th infantry band in attendance. Ladies are to be admitted free and boys for a small amount so a big crowd is certain.

On paper, the teams appear to be very evenly matched and a close, hard contest is looked for. The 20th is a comparatively new team, but when Ingram starts to let loose that broad accent he gets good results from his men. Ed Gaffney, the popular leader of the 16th infantry team, has been agreed upon as referee of the big event while Will Young and Charles Borst will act as lineups.

The lineups have been announced as follows: United Empire club—Chauf, goal; Ross, right back; Graham, left back; Art Spiller or Bennett, Oliver and Berkley, half backs; Ward, right outside; Day, right inside; Stogridge, center; Howe, left inside; L. Ross, left outside. 20th infantry—Ingram, goal; Logan, right back; Gray, left back; Pomom, Baxter and Horack, half backs; Atwell, right outside; Twille, right inside; Brown, center; McKinley, left inside; McAvoy, left outside.

Kauf also has been asked to attend, and to favor the diners with his now celebrated analogue about Kauf. A ten round go between Johnny Evers and Bill Klein is talked of, but in case this does not materialize, Tinker and Charles Hat Ebbets will probably be induced to rematch their recent sketch, known as "Organizing the Reds." Kauf Friday has been assigned the response to the toast "1905 and After," while Dave Eulis might be brought in to speak on the subject: "Me and Lincoln." What I Have Done for the Suburban

## BOWLING

Wigwam Big League. Official standings of the Wigwam Big League as of the close of the season are announced as follows:

Player	Games	Pins	Avg.
Bergbauer	22	14	.667
Hedrick	22	14	.667
Gring	22	14	.667
Springer	22	14	.667
Stogridge	22	14	.667
Bogue	22	14	.667
Holler	22	14	.667
Individual averages are announced as follows:			
McLain	22	14	.667
Davis	22	14	.667
Nagle	22	14	.667
Stogridge	22	14	.667
G. Garner	22	14	.667
Campbell	22	14	.667
Rodriguez	22	14	.667
Groth	22	14	.667
Brownfield	22	14	.667
Sherman	22	14	.667
Spiner	22	14	.667
Marchand	22	14	.667
Tuttle	22	14	.667
Bergbauer	22	14	.667
Dillard	22	14	.667
Pauchal	22	14	.667
Thompson	22	14	.667
Jones	22	14	.667
Springer	22	14	.667
Bailey	22	14	.667
Loftis	22	14	.667
Gring	22	14	.667
Aylsworth	22	14	.667
Gomez	22	14	.667
Holler	22	14	.667
Casidy	22	14	.667
McLain	22	14	.667
Kane	22	14	.667
Cooper	22	14	.667
Boggs	22	14	.667
Brown	22	14	.667
Wid	22	14	.667
Hedrick	22	14	.667
Kelch	22	14	.667
Watson	22	14	.667
High game, S. Campbell 277; high total, a game, S. Campbell 634; splits made, Springer 3; spares, Dillard 128; Rodriguez 133; strike only, Bergbauer 3, Grotz 2.			

## WHEN YOU SEE A WATCH THINK OF "THE JEWEL SHOP."

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